

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection?

Mr. REID. There is an objection.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Objection is heard.

Mr. LOTT. Mr. President, I am surprised by this objection by our Democratic colleagues. This issue concerns two very important matters: one, the intelligence authorization for the year, and also the very important Department of Energy reforms as a result of the Chinese espionage that has occurred during the last several years within the Department of Energy.

Needless to say, this issue needs to be debated in the Senate. I am truly sorry our Democratic colleagues do not want to debate it at this time.

I have urged the President, the National Security Adviser, Sandy Berger, and the Secretary of Energy to engage this issue. The headline should read: Senate resolves how in the future the Department of Energy will handle these matters to stop the leaks of very important nuclear weapons information from our labs.

That should be the headline, that we are working together to resolve this problem, instead of the situation where the Secretary of the Department of Energy is still trying to have a diffused system of reporting. There should be only one person who is reported to on the matters of national security at our nuclear labs, and that is the Secretary of Energy, and it should go straight to him and from him to the President of the United States. Surely we can work this out.

Having said that, I now move to proceed to H.R.—

Mr. REID. Will the Senator yield?

Mr. LOTT. I will be glad to yield.

Mr. REID. I say to the majority leader, there are ongoing discussions. There was a hearing today in the Senate on this very issue. There are meetings that are going to take place today on that issue. I have spoken to the Secretary of Energy as recently as last evening.

We are really trying to work something out. I think parties on both sides are trying to work something out. I think it would be to everyone's best interest that when we do bring this up, there is some degree of certainty that it will be resolved.

We also understand, without any question, the importance of the intelligence authorization bill. Senator KERREY, the ranking member of this committee, has expressed, on numerous occasions, how important it is we move this legislation. So I say to the leader and Members of this body, we are doing our utmost to resolve this issue as quickly as possible.

Mr. LOTT. I am glad to hear that.

INTELLIGENCE AUTHORIZATION ACT FOR FISCAL YEAR 2000— MOTION TO PROCEED

CLOTURE MOTION

Mr. LOTT. But having said that, I now move to proceed to H.R. 1555, and

I have sent a cloture motion to the desk.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The cloture motion having been presented under rule XXII, the Chair directs the clerk to read the motion.

The assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

CLOTURE MOTION

We the undersigned Senators, in accordance with the provisions of rule XXII of the Standing Rules of the Senate, do hereby move to bring to a close debate on the motion to proceed to H.R. 1555, the intelligence authorization Bill:

Trent Lott, Pete V. Domenici, Paul Coverdell, Jesse Helms, Chuck Hagel, Judd Gregg, Slade Gorton, Craig Thomas, James Inhofe, Frank Murkowski, Jon Kyl, Jim Bunning, Tim Hutchinson, Connie Mack, Rick Santorum, Richard Shelby.

CALL OF THE ROLL

Mr. LOTT. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that there be 1 hour for debate, beginning at 9:30 a.m. on Tuesday, to be equally divided, of course, in the usual fashion between Senator DOMENICI and Senator DASCHLE, or their designees, and that the cloture vote occur at 10:30 a.m. on Tuesday, July 20, and the mandatory quorum under rule XXII be waived.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection?

Mr. REID. There is not.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

Mr. LOTT. I now withdraw the motion to proceed.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The motion is withdrawn.

MORNING BUSINESS

Mr. LOTT. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to a period of morning business with Senators permitted to speak for up to 10 minutes each.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

ORDER OF PROCEDURE

Mr. WARNER addressed the Chair.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The distinguished Senator from Virginia is recognized.

Mr. WARNER. Mr. President, I understand the distinguished Senator from Georgia has time allocated this morning. I am asking his indulgence that I might speak for a period not to exceed 5 minutes and to yield within that period a brief moment or two to our distinguished colleague, Senator HAGEL.

Mr. COVERDELL. Mr. President, it is my understanding we do have an hour under my control, or my designee. I will designate up to 5 minutes. I ask the indulgence of the Senator from Virginia because I have a flight to accommodate as quickly as we can.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Virginia is recognized.

NOMINATION OF RICHARD HOLBROOKE

Mr. WARNER. Mr. President, I address the Senate regarding Executive Calendar No. 135, the nomination by the President of the United States of Richard Holbrooke of New York to be the Representative of the United States of America to the sessions of the General Assembly. That was presented to the Senate by the distinguished chairman of the Foreign Relations Committee, Mr. HELMS, on June 30, 1999. Following the favorable reporting by the Committee. It is now pending.

I have been in this magnificent body, privileged by the State of Virginia, for 21 years. I fully recognize the rights of Senators to place holds on nominations. I respect that right. I respect them for the reasons they have done it. I have done it myself, although sparingly. But in my judgment, the urgency for the Senate to address this nomination is increasing daily. I urge the Senate to proceed to an up-or-down vote because the United States of America, in my judgment, is increasingly in need of having a very powerful voice at the U.N.

Ambassador Holbrooke, in my judgment, is eminently qualified. He is well experienced with the complex issues in the Balkans.

I ask unanimous consent that at the end of my remarks there be printed an article in today's Washington Post.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is ordered.

(See Exhibit 1.)

Mr. WARNER. It covers the following:

Five weeks after the end of bitter ethnic war and the arrival of NATO troops in Kosovo, growing confusion among Western officials, local politicians and Kosovo's population about who controls the province is hampering efforts to begin rebuilding its tattered economy and political structure and social services.

The essence of this article captures a concern of this Senator, that the men and women in the Armed Forces, be they wearing the uniform of the United States or the uniform of our other NATO allies, all under the command of an American officer, General Clark, are at increasing personal risk because the United Nations is not able, perhaps for valid reasons, perhaps for invalid reasons, to take up their allocation of responsibilities and relieve the burdens from the troops so they can restrict their responsibilities to professional military duties.

I believe we should proceed with this nomination, have a vote up or down. Hopefully, this nomination will be approved by the Senate, and we can have a strong voice to enter into this very serious situation in Kosovo. We have invested billions of dollars. We have put at risk tens of thousands of lives, the men and women of the Armed Forces of this country and other countries, to reach the conclusion we now have of relative stability, in clear contrast to the cruel ethnic cleansing inflicted upon the people of Kosovo.